

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. to 18. (Canceled)

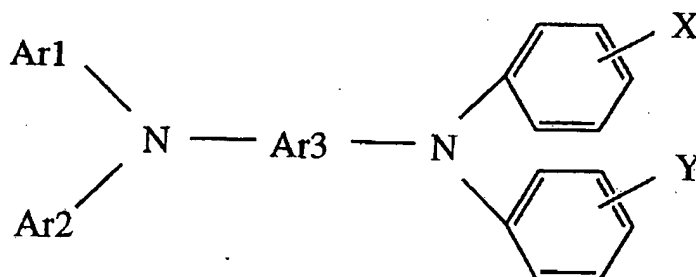
19. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to claim 13, wherein said Y in the general formula (1) is an aryl group comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

(1)



where Ar1 and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; Ar3 represents a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group containing five or more conjugated bonds and substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

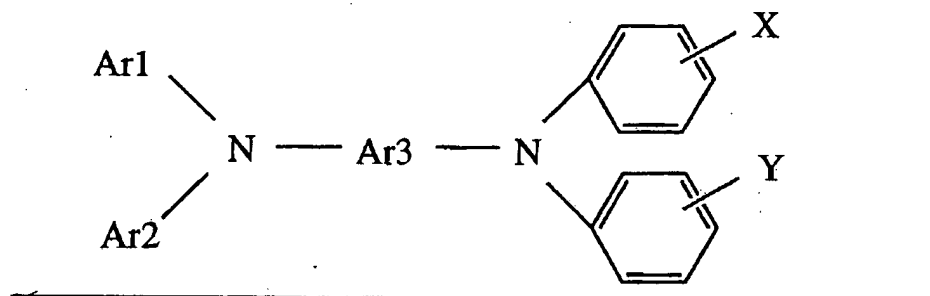
20. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said Ar3 in the general formula (1) is a p-phenylene group comprising at least:~~

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

(1)



where Ar1 and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; Ar3 represents a p-phenylene group; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group containing five or more conjugated bonds.

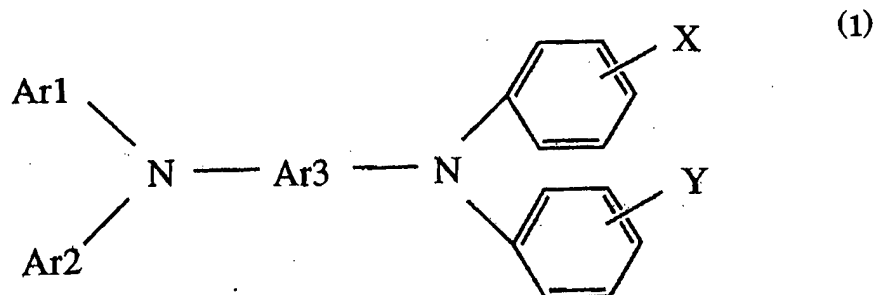
21. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said Ar3 in the general formula (1) is an m-phenylene group comprising at least:~~

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said

luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the
following general formula (1):



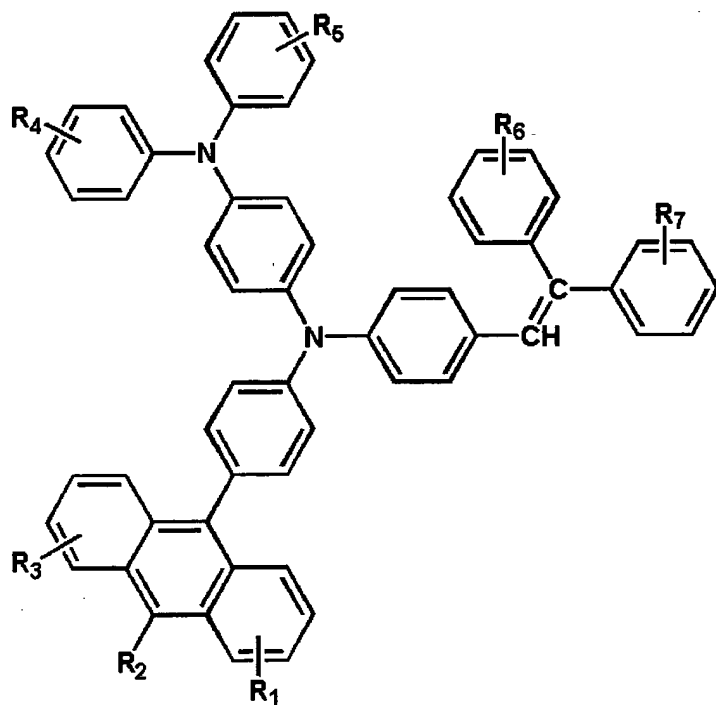
where Ar_1 and Ar_2 may be the same or different, and each
independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl
group; Ar_3 represents a m-phenylene group; X represents a
substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly
bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a
substituted or unsubstituted aryl group containing five or more
conjugated bonds.

22. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~
comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-
injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting
electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said
luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the
following general formula (6):



(6)

where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

23. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 22, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (6) is (4-{[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

24. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 22, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (6) is (4-{[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

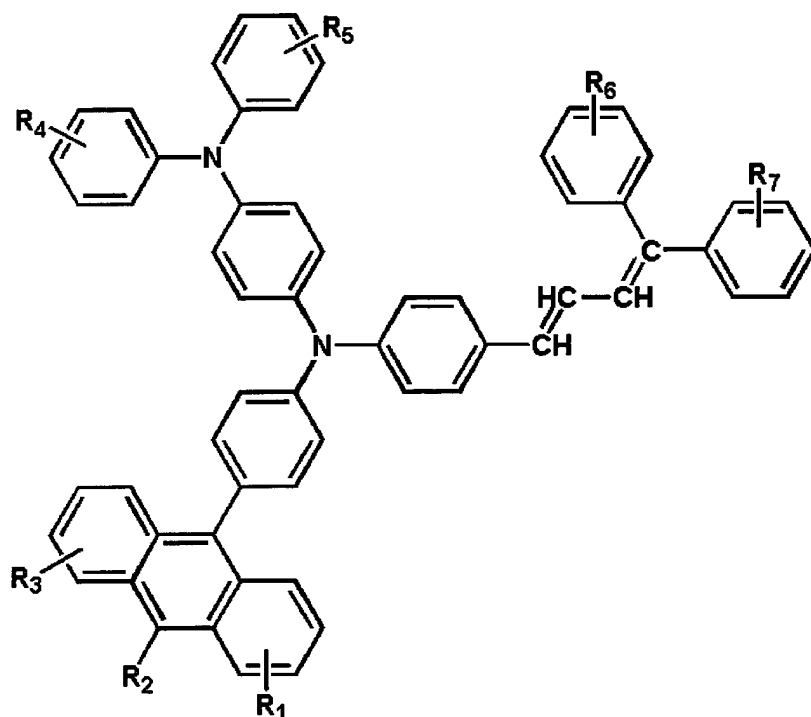
25. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (7):

(7)



where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different,

and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

26. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 25, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (7) is (4-{[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

27. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 25, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (7) is (4-{[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

28. (Original) A thin film EL device ~~according to claim 13,~~
~~wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising
at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to aid hole-
injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting
electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said

Chemical structure of a substituted benzimidazole derivative, featuring a central benzimidazole core with substituents R_1 , R_2 , and R_3 . The structure is linked via a biphenyl system to a central nitrogen atom, which is further connected to a phenyl ring and a diazo group ($-N=N-CH=$). The diazo group is linked to another biphenyl system with substituents R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , and R_7 .

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29. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 28, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (8) is [4-({4-[2-aza-2-(diphenylamino)vinyl]phenyl}{4-(9-anthryl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

30. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 28, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (8) is [4-({4-[2-aza-2-(diphenylamino)vinyl]phenyl}{4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

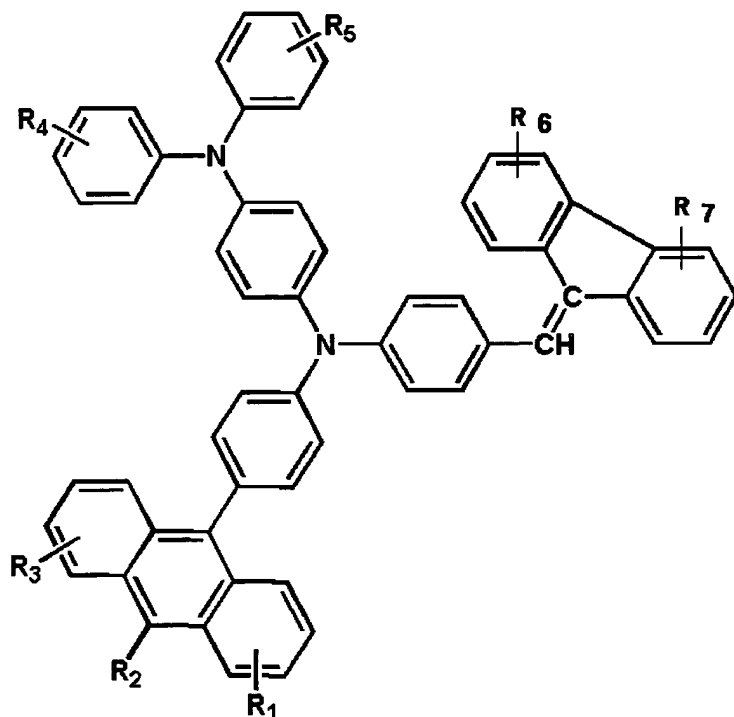
31. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (9):

(9)



where R₄, R₅, R₆, and R₇ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R₁, R₂, and R₃ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

32. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 31, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (9) is (4-{[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

33. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 31, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (9) is (4-{[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

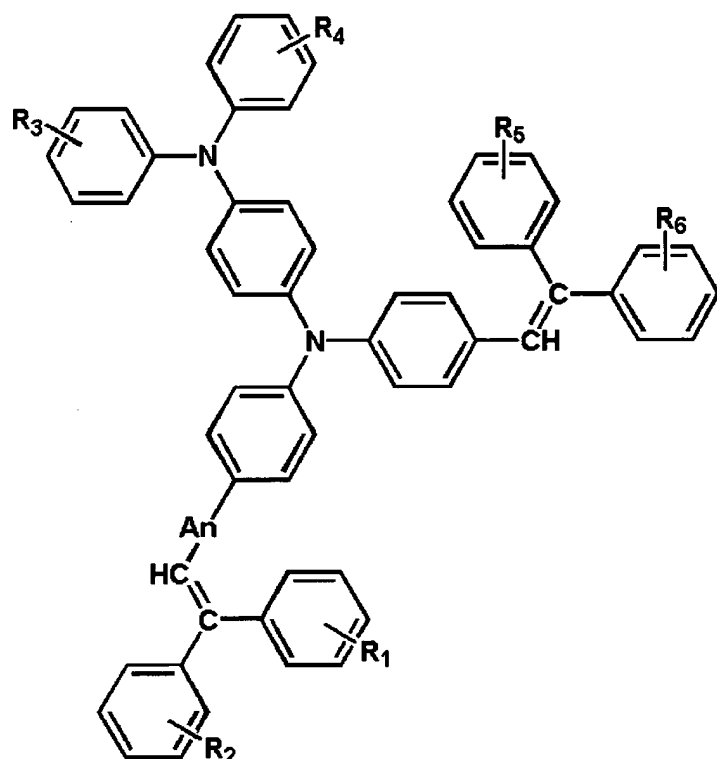
34. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (10):

(10)



where R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, and R6 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

35. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 34, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (10) is [4-({4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

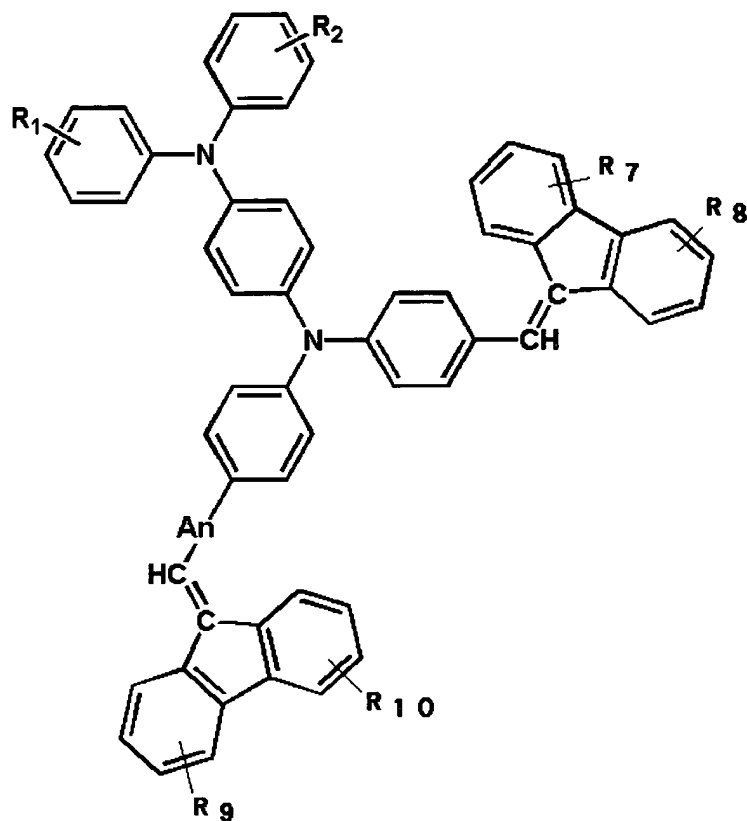
36. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 34, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (10) is [4-({4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.

37. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device ~~according to claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (11):



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38. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 37, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (11) is [4-({4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

39. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 37, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (11) is [4-({4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.

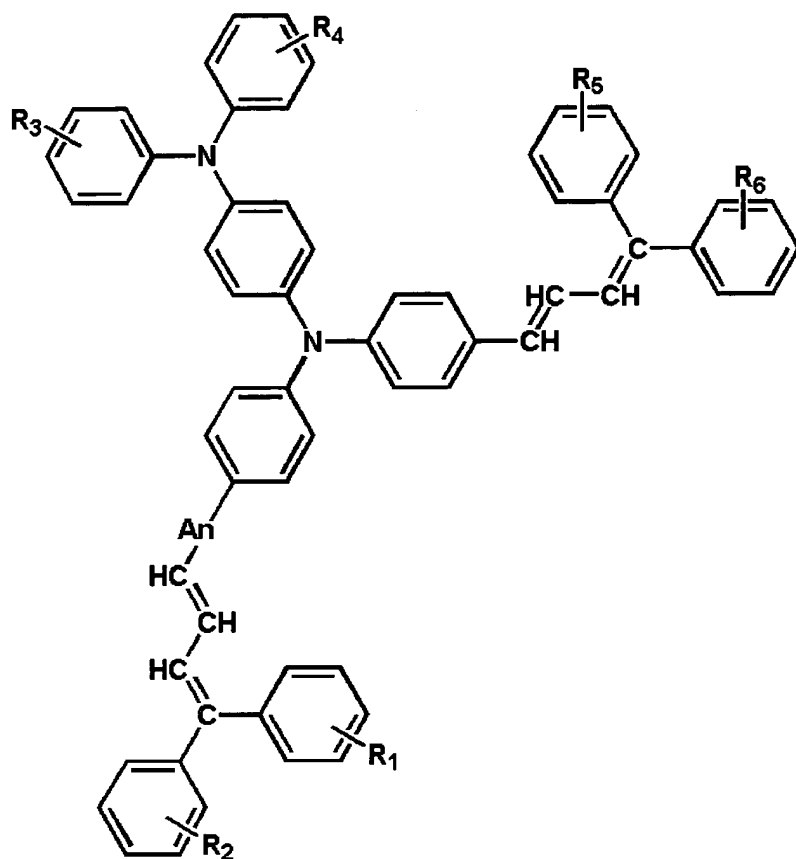
40. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (12):

(12)



where R₁ and R₂ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

41. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 40, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (12) is [4-({4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

42. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 40, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (12) is [4-({4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.

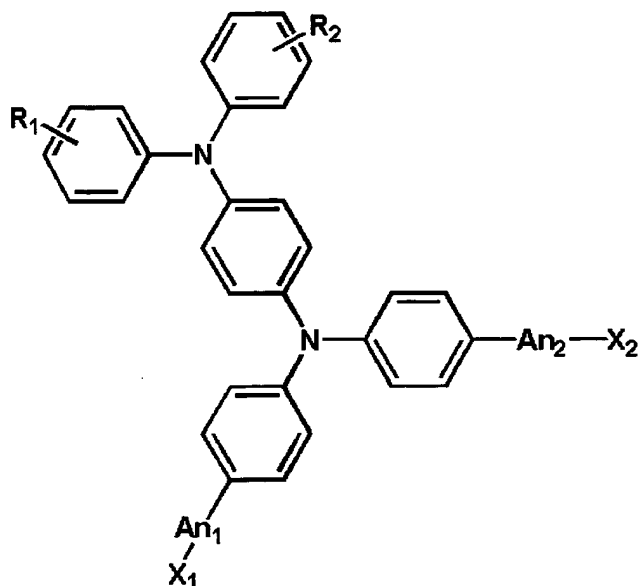
43. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (13):

(13)



where R₁ and R₂ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; An₁ and An₂ may be the same or different, and each independently represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings; and X₁ and X₂ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted 2,2-diphenylvinyl group, 4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl group, or fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl group or a hydrogen atom.

44. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is {4-[bis(4-(9-anthryl)phenyl)amino]phenyl}diphenylamine.

45. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

46. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

47. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenemethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

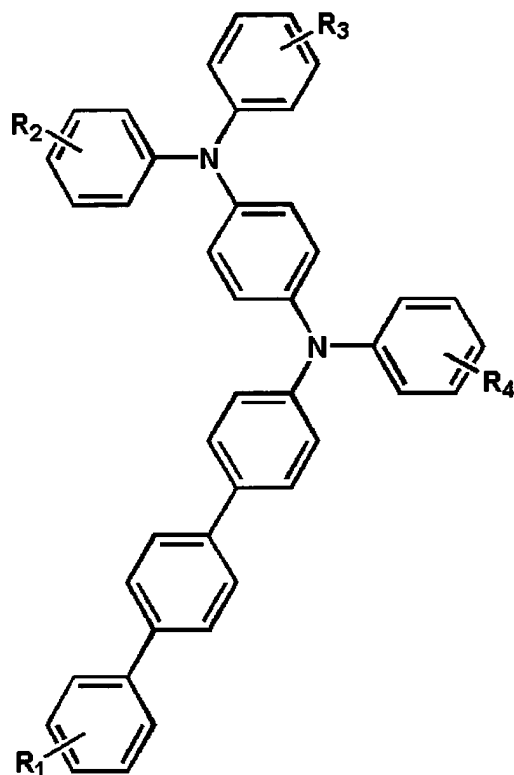
48. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device ~~according to claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (14):

(14)



where R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, or an aralkyl group; and R₁, R₂, and R₃ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group.

49. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 48, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (14) is [4-(diphenylamino)phenyl][4-(4-phenylphenyl)phenyl]phenylamine.

50. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 48, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (14) is [4-{bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amino}phenyl][4-{4-(4-methoxyphenyl)phenyl}phenyl][4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenyl]amine.

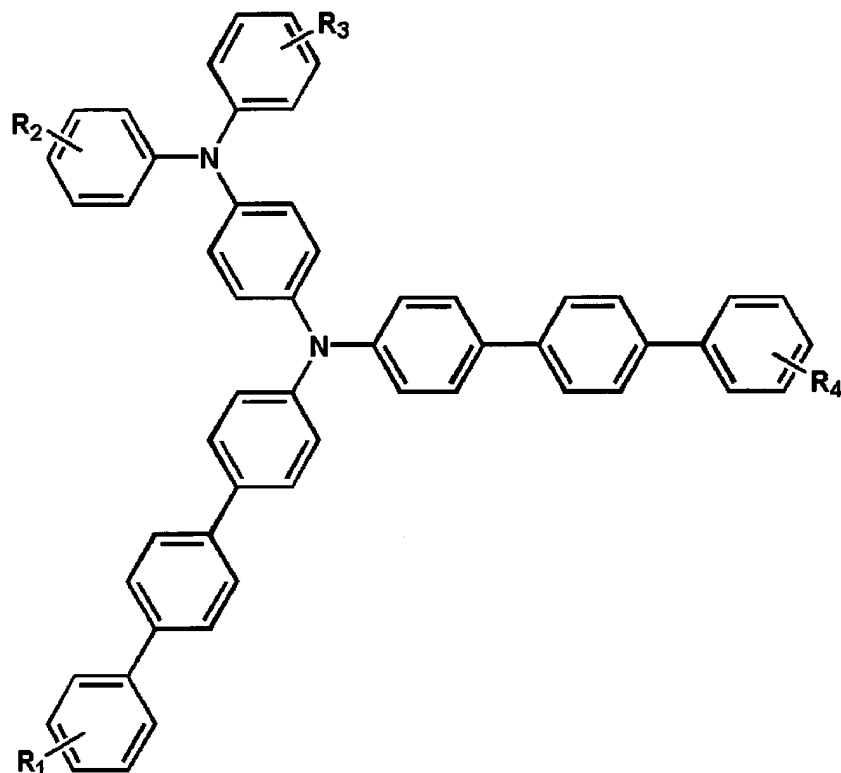
51. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device according to ~~claim 13, wherein said hole-transport luminescent material is~~ comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (15):

(15)



where R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group.

52. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 51, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (15) is [4-(diphenylamino)phenyl][bis{4-(4-phenylphenyl)phenyl}]amine.

Rule 1.53(b) Continuation of
Serial No. 09/913,644

53. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 51, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (15) is [4-{bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amino}phenyl]bis[4-{4-(4-methoxyphenyl)phenyl}phenyl]amine.